

Appl. No. : 10/642,358
Filed : August 15, 2003

REMARKS

In the March 21, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner allows claims 19-26, 49, 50, and 53, objects to Claims 1-7, 9-18, and 34-40, and rejects Claims 27-33, 41-48, 51, and 52. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

Objections to Claims 1-7 and 9-18

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include recitation of "low-pass filtering the gradient magnitude filtered first image pixel data to generate a gradient-magnitude filtered smoothed first image pixel data" and "low-pass filtering the gradient magnitude filtered second image pixel data to generate a gradient-magnitude filtered smoothed second image pixel data." This amendment is supported by, for example, paragraph [0064] and Equation 1. Applicants have also amended Claim 3 for consistency with the amendments to Claim 1. The amendments to Claim 3 are supported by, for example, paragraph [0067] and Equation 3.

In view of the amendment to Claim 1, Applicants request allowance of Claims 1-7 and 9-18.

Rejection of Claims 27-33 and 41-48 and Allowability of Claims 34-40.

Without acquiescing to the rejections of Claims 27-33 and 41-48, Applicants have amended Claim 27 with "wherein the mobile robot uses simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM) techniques for navigation." In describing the allowability of Claims 34, 35, 37, and 39, the Examiner stated that "the combination of Filo and Wang does not teach using SLAM techniques *or* that the intended motional state is not moving. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the foregoing amendment to Claim 27 places Claim 27 in condition for allowance.

Claims 34, 37, and 39 have been amended for consistency with the amendment to Claim 27. Applicants have also canceled Claims 35 and 36.

Claims 28-33, 41-48, and 34, 37-40 depend from Claim 27 or dependents thereof, and are also allowable for at least the reasons discussed for amended Claim 27.

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Rejection of Claims 45-48, 51, and 52

In view of the finality of the response and without acquiescing to the rejections of Claims 45-48, 51, and 52, Applicants have canceled Claims 45-48, 51, and 52. Accordingly, the rejections to Claims 45-48, 51, and 52 are now moot. Applicants reserve the right to pursue Claims 45-48, 51, and 52 in a continuation application.

SUMMARY

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of and objections to the claims, and to pass the present application to the issue process.

If there is any further impediment to the prompt allowance of the present application, Applicants request the Examiner to call the undersigned attorney of record at 310-407-3466 or at the telephone number listed below to resolve any such impediment.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated:

July 21, 2006

By:

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